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LIVESTOCK MEAT WOOL

Market News

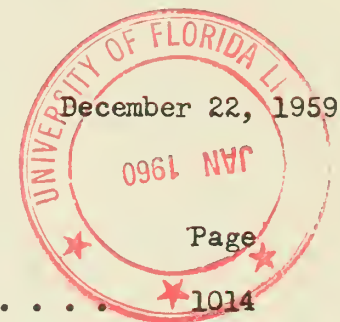


WEEKLY SUMMARY AND STATISTICS

LIVESTOCK DIVISION, AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Week ended December 19



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MIDWEST LIVESTOCK REVIEW

and

RANGE AND FEEDLOT SALES

Trading was rather dull on most classes of livestock at midwest markets and prices were generally lower. Marketings were below the previous week but above a year ago. Supplies were liberal for the available outlet. Prices on slaughter steers and heifers were unevenly steady to \$1.00 lower, some steers \$1.50 off at Chicago. Barrows and gilts sold 25-50¢ lower for the week over most of the area. Slaughter lamb prices were steady to 50¢ lower at most points.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES - Trading was moderately active on slaughter steers and heifers at most midwest terminals Monday with little price change. However, later in the period trading was slow and downturns occurred throughout the area. The weekly clearance of slaughter cattle was incomplete at some centers. Price trends on both fed steers and heifers were unevenly steady to \$1.00 lower with some sales \$1.50 off at Chicago. The greatest downturns were on Choice and Prime steers over 1200# and all weights of other grades, while Choice and Prime under 1100# closed steady to firm at several centers. Most decline on heifers was recorded on weights 900# and up grading Standard and Good. Receipts of slaughter cattle were little changed from the rather liberal supply the previous week but were somewhat above the corresponding week last year. The rather large supplies coupled with a general price decline on carlots of steer and heifer beef were major factors influencing lower prices in live trading. Slaughter cow prices were uneven, sales were steady at some points, but were 50¢ lower at So. St. Paul and mostly 25¢ off at Omaha, while trends were steady to 25¢ higher at Chicago, strong to 50¢ higher at Denver and 25-50¢ up at Sioux City. Bulls sold steady to 50¢ higher; vealers were largely steady.

At Chicago, high-Choice and Prime slaughter steers brought \$26.50-28.00 early while the same grades above 1300# closed at \$24.50-26.00; Good and Choice on early rounds \$23.00-26.50, late \$21.50-26.00. Elsewhere in the midwest high-Choice and Prime fed steers cashed from \$25.75-26.75, load 1250# \$27.00 at St. Joseph and load 1149# \$27.50 at Kansas City; most Choice under 1200# \$24.00-25.50, over 1200# \$23.50-25.00; majority Good and low-Choice \$21.50-24.00. High-Choice and Prime heifers realized \$24.50-25.50; Good and Choice mostly \$21.00-25.00 with Choice largely \$23.00 up. Utility and Commercial cows brought \$14.00-16.50, Cannery and Cutters mainly \$11.00-14.50. Good and Choice vealers sold from \$23.00-27.00 at So. St. Paul with

high-Choice and Prime \$28.00-31.00. At St. Louis National Stock Yards Good and Choice vealers realized \$28.00-33.00, few Prime \$34.00.

STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES - Trading was moderately active at most markets on stocker yearlings and calves, while heavy and fleshy feeder steers were slow in some areas. Steer shipments from the 10 markets totaled 26,309 compared to 23,724 the previous week and 17,710 a year earlier. Outgo of stock calves at these markets at 18,732 compares to 24,777 the previous week and 14,275 a year ago. Prices as a whole varied only slightly from steady. There was some strength in calves and yearlings in the Southwest, and at Denver stock calves and cows sold steady to 50¢ higher. At points along the Missouri River, sales were steady to weak, with fleshy feeders weak to 50¢ lower at some centers. The small supply at Chicago closed weak to \$1.00 off.

Good and Choice feeder steers 850-1050# sold from \$21.50-25.00, few near 800# \$25.25-25.75. Medium and Good feeders bulked at \$18.00-23.00, some Common and Medium \$16.00-18.00. Good and Choice 550-775# stock steers bulked at \$23.00-27.50 with several loads Choice mostly under 650# along the Missouri River from \$27.50-28.50; Medium and Good stockers \$19.00-26.50; Common and Medium \$16.50-23.00. Stocker and feeder heifers were relatively scarce, few Medium and Good \$17.00-22.00, some Choice \$23.50-24.00.

Good and Choice stock steer calves sold at \$23.00-28.00 at Kansas City, St. Joseph and Southwestern terminals, but brought \$26.00-32.00 at other points, several loads Choice \$32.00-32.50 at Sioux City and Denver and at Omaha a load Choice 425# cashed at \$33.50 and load 350# \$35.00. Medium and Good steer calves brought \$20.00-27.50; Good and Choice heifer calves \$21.00-28.00, few to \$28.85. Bulk Medium and Good stock cows realized \$13.50-17.00, few Good \$18.00-18.50 at Denver.

HOGS - Hog marketings throughout the Corn Belt decreased around 5 percent from the previous week, but were still liberal. At Omaha receipts the past two weeks were the largest since early 1956. The number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection during November this year at 6,337,172 was the largest for that month since 1956. The butcher supply for the week in review was mainly consignments of mixed U. S. No. 1, 2 and 3 weighing 200-260#. The volume weighing under 220# was rather limited as No. 2

and 3 over 230# comprised the large proportion of the supply. Sows accounted for 8-14 percent of the total receipts at various markets and made up around 8 percent of the Interior run.

Rather liberal receipts, especially early in the week and declining dressed pork prices were factors tending to depress demand and prices on the live market. The available supply of butchers around 220# and lighter moved fairly well, while heavier weights were frequently uneven weight lots of predominately No. 2 and 3 grades and were under most downward price pressure. Closing sales, compared with the previous Friday, were largely 25-50¢ lower with uneven weight lots and those over 240# reflecting the greatest decline. Sow prices were steady to 25¢ lower, instances 50¢ off except steady to 25¢ higher at Indianapolis and 25-50¢ up at St. Louis National Stock Yards. Butcher sales in the Interior area were weak to 35¢ lower, liberal share 25¢ off, and sows were mainly 10¢ lower with some over 400# 15-35¢ off.

Mixed U. S. No. 1-3 barrows and gilts 190-240# at terminals Friday sold from \$11.25-11.75 and up to \$12.50 in eastern sections of the Corn Belt. No. 1 and 2 selected lots at Missouri River markets cashed at \$11.75-12.50 and reached \$12.60-13.00 at eastern points. Mixed No. 1-3 sows 270-400# bulked late at \$8.75-9.75. In the Interior area, mixed No. 1-3 butchers 200-240# on late rounds sold from \$10.70-12.00, mostly \$11.00-11.75, and a few No. 1 and 2 selected lots cleared at \$11.75-12.50 with most sales \$12.15 and below. Mixed No. 1-3 sows 270-400# bulked at \$8.50-9.75.

Feeder pigs at Sioux City and So. St. Paul were steady. Medium and Good 130-170# feeders at Sioux City sold at \$9.50-10.00; Good and Choice 130-160# at So. St. Paul brought \$9.50-10.00. At Memphis sales were \$1.00-2.00 lower with Common and Medium 30-110# feeders at \$4.00-8.00, few Good 100# \$9.00.

SHEEP AND LAMBS - Receipts at the 12 major markets were 24 percent smaller than the previous week but 15 percent more than a year ago. Prices on slaughter lambs were steady to 50¢ lower with some sales \$1.00 off. The limited volume of slaughter yearlings along with slaughter ewes sold steady. Feeder lambs closed steady to 75¢ lower except for a strong to 50¢ higher trend at Fort Worth. Choice 90-115# woolled slaughter lambs sold from \$17.50-18.25 with 98-100# weights up to \$18.50 at Chicago. Bulk Good and Choice 80-115# woolled slaughter lambs brought \$16.00-17.50, Utility and Good \$14.00-16.50. Good and Choice 80-113# shorn slaughter lambs, mostly with No. 1 and fall shorn pelts, realized \$15.50-17.00 with some mostly Choice \$17.25-17.50 early in the week. Good and Choice 100-

104# fall shorn yearling wethers cashed at \$15.00 at St. Louis National Stock Yards, while Utility and Good 97-109# shorn slaughter yearlings and two-year-old wethers brought \$11.00-13.50 at Fort Worth. Cull to Choice woolled slaughter ewes sold from \$2.50-6.50. Good and Choice 55-80# feeder lambs sold from \$16.00-18.25; Medium and Good \$13.00-16.50.

RANGE AND FEEDLOT SALES

Note: Shrink on most range and feedlot sales none to 5 percent, mostly 4 percent f.o.b. some with short haul and 3 percent shrink. All sales for immediate delivery unless specified.

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, AND UTAH - Direct trading on slaughter steers and heifers out of Arizona and California feedlots was moderately active with prices fully steady and some steers were contracted into February. Sales of stockers and feeders increased slightly in volume and were fully steady; slaughter lambs about steady.

Slaughter steers: In California 33 loads Choice 850-1150#, mainly 850-975# \$26.75-27.00; in Arizona and California 234 loads Good and Choice 800-1225# \$25.00-26.50 including 32 loads for January delivery; 50 loads mostly Good 800-1200# \$23.50-24.50 including 15 loads to February 15 delivery; 22 loads Standard and Good 900-1200# \$20.50-23.50. **Slaughter heifers:** Part load average-Choice 850# \$26.50; 49 loads high-Good to average-Choice 750-1000# \$25.00-26.00; 43 loads Good and Choice 725-1000# \$23.50-25.00, mainly \$24.00-24.50.

Stockers and feeders: 300 Good and Choice 725-850# steers \$25.00; 600 Good and Choice 825-850# \$24.00 with 10 percent sort at \$23.00; 200 Medium 700-750# \$18.00. About 550 Good and Choice 775-800# partly finished heifers \$24.50 to continue on feed; 2 loads Good and Choice 520# steer and heifer calves \$27.00; 75 Good and Choice 425-450# steer and heifer calves \$25.50.

Slaughter lambs: In California 9 loads Good to mostly Choice 100-115# No. 1 to full-wooled pelts \$16.50-17.50; in Utah 5 loads mostly Choice 103-108# woolled \$17.00-17.50.

COLORADO, SOUTHERN WYOMING, WESTERN NEBRASKA, AND WESTERN KANSAS - With Christmas approaching, the demand for fed cattle was greatly reduced. Sales were confirmed on 157 loads of fed cattle compared to 274 loads last week and 231 loads a year ago. Fed steers sold steady to 50¢ lower, with Choice under 1150# mostly steady. Fed heifers sold fully steady. Nine loads Choice 1050-1175# fed steers \$25.50-26.25; 60 loads high-Good to average-Choice 1100-1275# \$24.90-25.50. Eight loads av.-high-Choice heifers 975# \$25.75; 57 loads high-Good to average-Choice 900-1035# \$24.50-25.25, mostly \$24.75 and up; 21 loads mostly Choice

850-975# \$25.25-25.50.

Movement of stocker and feeder cattle and calves continued seasonally slow. The few sales confirmed were fully steady. Western Kansas: 496 Good 779-870# feeder steers \$20.00-21.50; load Good and Choice 780# \$23.60; 135 Good and Choice 768# feeder heifers \$21.75. Wyoming: 170 Good and Choice 358# steer calves \$28.00. Colorado: Load Good and Choice 368# heifer calves \$24.50; 3 loads Good and Choice, mostly Good, 702-813# feeder steers \$22.50-23.15, 3 loads same grades 597-693# \$22.70-24.65.

Fed lambs sold fully 25¢ lower. In Northern Colorado at least 10 loads Good to mostly Choice 102-108# woolled slaughter lambs \$17.75-18.00; 2 loads Choice lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts \$17.00.

NEW MEXICO, WEST TEXAS, WESTERN OKLAHOMA, SOUTHWESTERN KANSAS - Heavy snowfall, rain, sleet and ice fell over the area. Direct trading on slaughter steers and heifers was quite active at fully steady prices except steers steady to 50¢ lower in the Clovis area. Stockers and feeders fairly active in the Amarillo area but very slow in the Clovis region. Prices were fully steady. Eight loads Good to mostly low-Choice 848-1075# slaughter steers \$24.00-24.75; 63 loads mostly Good but including some low-Choice 750-1150# \$22.75-24.00; 9 loads Standard and low-Good 750-1100# \$21.50-22.20. Sixty-nine loads Good and Choice 708-950# fed heifers \$23.00-24.60.

Good and Choice 700-825# feeder steers \$22.25-23.50; over 2,100 Medium and low-Good 625-760# \$20.75-22.50, these mostly to West Coast buyers including some for March deliv-

ery; 150 Choice 500-580# stock steers \$24.50-\$26.00; Good and Choice 600-675# feeder heifers \$20.75-21.75, load 530# \$22.00; 1,700 Choice 365-400# stock steer calves in the Amarillo area \$30.00-30.50, scattered other sales Good and Choice stock calves \$23.00-27.00 for steers, \$20.00-23.00 for heifers.

IDAHO, OREGON AND WASHINGTON - Slaughter steers and heifers sold steady; stocker and feeder cattle in Oregon strong to 25¢ higher with stock calves steady to \$1.00 up, but steady otherwise; slaughter lambs steady.

Choice 1000-1350# fed steers over the area \$24.00-26.75; Good and Choice 800-950# slaughter heifers \$22.00-24.00.

Washington - Good and Choice 800-835# feeder steers \$24.00-24.50. Idaho and Oregon Good and Choice 375-400# stock calves, steers mostly \$26.00-27.25, heifers \$24.00-25.00. Good and Choice 600-900# stocker and feeder steers in Oregon \$23.50-24.10.

Idaho - Choice 100-108# woolled slaughter lambs \$17.00-18.00, some 115# \$16.50; Good and Choice 90-98# fleshy feeder lambs \$15.70.

MONTANA, NORTHERN WYOMING AND WESTERN DAKOTAS - Trading on stocker and feeder cattle and calves slow. Several hundred Good and Choice 380-450# stock steer calves sold from \$27.00-29.00; 100 Choice 375# steers \$30.00; Good and Choice heifer calves \$23.00-25.00, instances \$26.00 on Choice.

At Casper, Wyoming 90,000# of 1958 ewes wool sold at 52.02¢ per grease pound, delivered Boston; 40,000# 1959 ewes wool original bag 50¢ in the grease F.O.B. Douglas, Wyoming.

WEEKLY RECEIPTS OF SALABLE LIVESTOCK AT 12 PUBLIC MARKETS

Market	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep	
	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 19	Dec. 20
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Chicago	49,397	47,295	326	443	46,005	50,143	13,021	12,703
Cincinnati	2,926	3,748	558	783	12,456	10,264	1,322	1,231
Denver	10,682	8,495	1,365	530	6,253	3,673	13,574	12,187
Fort Worth	4,375	4,850	1,478	1,526	1,717	1,791	3,349	2,783
Indianapolis ...	6,073	7,026	592	515	37,274	30,855	4,323	3,791
Kansas City	24,539	18,377	1,394	1,252	18,831	14,338	4,593	5,534
Oklahoma City ..	8,905	7,366	979	698	2,536	2,905	740	708
Omaha	43,929	36,208	2,199	1,421	68,015	46,711	13,725	10,144
St. Joseph	16,009	12,916	739	434	40,745	29,198	5,570	3,928
St. Louis NSY ..	15,221	13,442	2,072	2,192	74,151	53,989	6,887	6,040
Sioux City	34,346	27,177	4,969	1,415	55,798	55,203	10,513	6,707
S. St. Paul	21,283	21,482	9,891	10,908	66,273	60,385	14,873	14,390
Total	237,685	208,382	26,562	22,117	430,054	359,455	92,490	80,146
Dec. 12, 1959 ..	248,469		34,196		463,191		121,329	

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

	Dec. 19, 1959	Dec. 12, 1959	Dec. 20, 1958
Hogs	449,000	461,000	412,000
Sheep ...	27,600	27,600	26,800

STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER 1/

Grade	Number of head		Percent of total by grades		Average weight (pounds)		Average price in dollars per 100 lb.	
	Week ended							
	Dec. 17 1959	Dec. 18 1958	Dec. 17 1959	Dec. 18 1958	Dec. 17 1959	Dec. 18 1958	Dec. 17 1959	Dec. 18 1958
CHICAGO								
Prime.....	2,673	4,697	7.5	15.2	1,276	1,218	27.19	28.14
Choice.....	22,470	18,141	63.4	58.8	1,165	1,181	25.54	26.98
Good.....	8,080	7,261	22.8	23.5	1,128	1,149	23.80	25.66
Standard.....	1,682	658	4.7	2.1	1,006	1,074	22.32	24.53
Commercial.....	144	91	.4	.3	1,405	1,598	20.90	22.71
Utility.....	375	10	1.2	.1	1,049	912	18.85	21.40
All grades.....	35,424	30,858			1,157	1,178	25.07	26.79
OMAHA								
Prime.....	175	502	1.0	3.0	1,184	1,109	26.41	27.95
Choice.....	7,073	7,592	41.5	44.5	1,144	1,178	24.74	26.35
Good.....	8,669	7,789	50.9	45.7	1,120	1,144	23.05	24.97
Standard.....	928	818	5.5	4.8	1,101	1,232	19.80	23.25
Utility.....	185	352	1.1	2.0	1,010	1,142	17.68	22.17
All grades.....	17,030	17,053			1,128	1,162	23.58	25.53
SIOUX CITY								
Prime.....	125	496	1.0	4.1	1,123	1,154	26.17	27.68
Choice.....	7,692	7,486	58.9	61.9	1,138	1,171	24.37	26.52
Good.....	4,790	3,543	36.7	29.3	1,101	1,144	23.06	25.30
Standard.....	334	466	2.6	3.9	1,079	1,029	20.33	24.12
Utility.....	104	103	.8	.8	1,108	1,141	18.38	22.51
All grades.....	13,045	12,094			1,122	1,157	23.77	26.10
KANSAS CITY								
Prime.....	36	7	.5	--	1,103	974	27.31	28.25
Choice.....	1,776	1,229	26.0	18.6	1,112	1,105	24.74	26.31
Good.....	3,844	4,512	56.0	64.6	1,117	1,100	22.86	24.90
Standard.....	1,047	1,169	15.3	16.7	1,109	1,074	20.47	23.54
Commercial.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Utility.....	154	72	2.2	.1	1,106	1,067	17.80	21.68
All grades.....	6,857	6,989			1,114	1,096	22.89	24.90
ST. LOUIS NSY								
Prime.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice.....	703	1,011	13.0	23.5	1,057	1,113	25.13	26.26
Good.....	2,438	1,697	45.0	39.5	1,065	1,064	23.49	25.47
Standard.....	2,068	1,470	38.2	34.2	1,021	1,067	21.33	24.17
Commercial.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Utility.....	203	118	3.8	2.8	925	1,066	17.87	21.85
All grades.....	5,412	4,296			1,042	1,076	22.71	25.12
S. ST. JOSEPH								
Prime.....	54	6	.7	.1	1,176	1,093	26.79	28.00
Choice.....	3,506	1,309	48.5	23.4	1,109	1,111	24.19	26.60
Good.....	2,953	3,155	40.8	56.3	1,119	1,106	22.14	24.94
Standard.....	692	1,096	9.6	19.6	1,089	1,091	19.18	23.62
Utility.....	25	34	.4	.6	1,037	1,031	16.42	21.88
All grades.....	7,230	5,600			1,111	1,104	22.87	25.06
DENVER								
Prime.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice.....	1,078	2,493	54.8	61.0	1,163	1,209	25.49	26.97
Good.....	783	1,468	39.8	36.0	1,203	1,160	23.82	25.93
Standard.....	96	124	4.9	3.0	1,081	1,065	18.65	22.28
Utility.....	11	--	.5	--	915	--	17.29	--
All grades.....	1,968	4,085			1,174	1,187	24.46	26.48

1/ Data collected by Agricultural Estimates, and Livestock Divisions, A.M.S.

FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

	Week ended		Month		Five months		
	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 18	Nov.	Nov.	July	Nov.
	1959	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Steers - 1001# up	1,061	976	1,252	2,547	3,187	17,386	21,115
901-1000	2,752	1,645	3,202	9,165	7,361	57,784	57,045
801-900	5,018	4,333	2,540	21,490	16,340	104,616	98,940
701-800	6,428	5,701	3,650	42,764	27,475	166,263	139,730
501-700	11,050	11,069	7,066	72,279	53,694	332,445	280,551
Total steers 10 mths.	26,309	23,724	17,710	148,245	108,057	678,494	597,381
Av. wts. " " "	740#	728#	759#	711#	715#	718#	728#
Av. cost* " " "	\$22.83	\$23.23	\$26.25	\$23.75	\$27.20	\$25.32	\$26.28
" " " Chicago	22.83	22.72	25.66	25.46	27.59	26.23	26.38
" " " Ks. City	22.53	22.30	25.76	23.34	26.46	24.81	25.56
" " " Omaha	23.09	24.47	26.97	24.85	28.40	26.46	27.49
" " " S. St. Paul	21.55	21.72	25.10	21.80	25.21	23.75	24.72
" " " Sioux City	24.96	25.23	27.14	24.86	28.02	26.55	27.11
" " " Denver	23.91	24.22	26.58	24.63	27.86	25.61	27.28
" " " Ft. Worth	21.41	21.11	26.97	20.83	24.84	24.08	25.09
" " " Okla. City	21.44	20.79	26.57	21.76	25.96	24.11	25.19
" " " S. St. Joseph	22.21	21.25	26.45	22.32	26.32	24.69	25.19
" " " Natl. Stk. Yds.	20.63	22.15	24.64	22.79	24.87	24.15	24.40
Total calves-10 mths.	18,732	24,777	14,275	148,826	129,490	442,140	424,052
" heifers " "	2,824	3,536	3,352	24,768	19,370	124,691	126,459
" cows " "	1,532	2,786	1,674	9,496	12,006	24,307	31,089

* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.

ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Week ended	Beef		Veal		Pork (excl. lard)		Lamb and Mutton		Total meat	Total lard
	Num-ber	Prod.	Num-ber	Prod.	Num-ber	Prod.	Num-ber	Prod.	prod.	prod.
	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	mil. lb.	mil. lb.
Dec. 19, 1959	345	204.6	105	11.3	1,545	209.5	230	11.3	436.7	--
Dec. 12, 1959	380	226.5	110	11.9	1,710	233.8	300	14.7	486.9	--
Dec. 5, 1959 ^{1/}	371	--	117	--	1,673	--	304	--	--	56.5
Dec. 20, 1958 ^{1/}	313	187.3	113	12.1	1,312	178.7	199	9.8	387.9	44.7
Percentage change from:										
Dec. 12, 1959	-9	-10	-5	-5	-10	-10	-23	-23	-10	--
Dec. 20, 1958	10	9	-7	-7	18	17	16	15	13	--
Week ended	Average weight (lb.)									
	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and Lambs		Lard	
	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	per	100 lb.
Dec. 19, 1959	1040	593	190	108	240	136	101	49	--	--
Dec. 12, 1959	1045	596	190	108	242	137	101	49	--	--
Dec. 5, 1959	1045	596	195	111	243	138	101	49	--	--
Dec. 20, 1958	1062	598	188	107	240	136	100	49	14.2	--

^{1/} Actual slaughter. ^{2/} Excludes lard.

TOTAL MEATS, MEAT PRODUCTS, AND BYPRODUCTS GRADED, OR CERTIFIED AS COMPLYING WITH SPECIFICATIONS BY THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

		Beef	Veal	Lamb	All other		Grand
Month		and	and	yearling,	Total	meats	total
		calf	calf	and mutton:		and lard:	
		1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#	1,000#
November 1959		534,899	15,113	20,425	570,437	13,285	583,722
October 1959		622,482	18,851	22,045	663,376	13,397	676,775
November 1958		486,217	12,652	19,266	518,135	11,337	529,472

WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

City or Area	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs	
	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 19	Dec. 20
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Boston, New York City Area.	14,371	13,493	10,072	8,859	56,393	55,572	42,033	37,509
Baltimore, Philadelphia....	8,148	7,957	1,476	748	30,578	28,142	4,680	3,063
Cin., Cleve., Detroit, Indpls.	14,850	16,382	4,549	5,851	144,388	106,739	16,280	11,482
Chicago Area.....	17,078	22,702	8,686	8,748	37,765	42,968	6,862	5,066
St. Paul-Wisc. Areas.....	30,099	27,119	23,224	29,936	145,903	122,676	12,926	11,200
St. Louis Area.....	10,328	10,759	1,719	1,896	86,068	79,389	5,489	4,560
Sioux City-So. Dakota Area	23,801	20,684	--	--	139,682	103,187	13,421	16,171
Omaha Area.....	35,580	31,754	182	168	100,107	81,123	11,806	10,065
Kansas City.....	13,113	10,743	--	--	47,647	32,661	--	--
Iowa - So. Minnesota.....	31,590	28,255	10,636	11,941	336,917	307,366	29,346	26,076
Lou'l. Evan'l. Nash'l. Mph's..	5,851	6,762	4,106	4,500	61,473	48,379	--	--
Georgia, Florida, Ala. Area	5,574	5,608	2,504	2,627	31,158	26,833	--	--
St. Jo'ph. Wichita, Okla. City.	18,807	15,490	1,258	1,387	63,528	47,546	7,464	5,745
Ft. Worth, Dallas, San Antonio	7,094	6,777	2,758	3,758	17,948	22,031	8,575	5,754
Denver, Ogden, Salt Lake City	17,808	14,808	203	333	19,650	14,037	21,425	16,853
Los Angeles, San Fran. Areas	24,214	17,669	1,170	1,728	33,068	25,870	26,336	22,894
Portland, Seattle, Spokane...	6,686	5,041	355	245	17,752	14,023	3,751	2,910
Total.....	284,992	262,003	72,898	82,725	1,370,025	1,158,542	210,394	179,348
Accumulation to date.....	14,049,768	14,040,977	3,319,348	4,020,942	58,017,467	49,851,416	11,607,521	10,505,733

ESTIMATED PERCENT OF FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

Week ended	Chicago:	Kansas:	Omaha:	S. St.:	St. Louis:	Sioux:	S. St.:	Indian:	Denver:	Fort :	Okla.:	Wichita:	Antonio
	City :			Joseph :	NSY :		City:	Paul :	apolis :	Worth :	City :		
Feeders and stockers													
Dec. 18, 1959	2	47	22	14	10	28	5	17	25	45	60	40	50
Dec. 11, 1959	2	48	17	13	11	25	7	20	30	50	60	51	60
Dec. 19, 1958	2	37	18	17	4	25	5	8	12	50	57	60	43
Slaughter cows													
Dec. 18, 1959	5	10	8	8	13	7	25	15	30	25	13	15	25
Dec. 11, 1959	4	9	11	8	13	8	23	17	25	25	10	17	15
Dec. 19, 1958	6	9	10	8	17	6	20	10	12	15	8	13	27

CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

	Chicago		Kansas City		Omaha		Denver		Los Angeles	
Classification	Dec. 19 1959	Dec. 20 1958	Dec. 19 1959	Dec. 20 1958	Dec. 19 1959	Dec. 20 1958	Dec. 19 1959	Dec. 20 1958	Dec. 19 1959	Dec. 20 1958
<u>Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers</u>										
Steers -										
Prime 900-1100#	26.85	28.50	--	--	26.68	28.32	--	--	--	--
1100-1300	27.12	28.02	--	--	26.68	28.02	--	--	--	--
Choice 900-1100	25.62	27.52	25.25	26.92	25.30	27.15	25.95	27.35	26.12	27.75
1100-1300	25.25	26.90	25.12	26.00	24.98	26.55	25.15	26.92	25.75	27.32
Good 900-1100	23.50	25.62	22.62	25.30	22.90	25.38	22.48	25.50	24.38	26.55
Standard-All wts.	21.42	24.15	19.62	22.92	19.72	23.48	19.00	23.00	22.50	25.10
Heifers -										
Choice 600-800#	--	27.38	24.62	27.38	24.25	26.80	25.12	27.45	25.75	26.90
Good 500-900	22.45	25.92	22.00	25.44	21.98	25.28	22.38	25.62	24.00	25.78
Standard-All wts.	20.10	23.80	19.00	23.00	19.10	23.32	19.00	23.00	21.25	24.45
Cows - All weights-										
Commercial	15.80	19.25	15.75	19.95	15.88	19.22	17.55	20.75	16.88	21.52
Utility	14.62	17.78	14.62	18.20	14.62	17.80	15.92	19.75	15.69	19.72
Canner & Cutter	13.52	16.20	12.00	15.60	12.78	15.88	13.38	17.25	13.50	16.88
Bulls - All wts. -										
Utility & Com'l.	20.62	24.12	18.38	22.02	19.00	21.78	19.75	23.28	22.12	24.38
Calves - 500# dn.-										
Choice	--	--	23.00	27.25	--	--	--	27.25	--	30.00
Stand. & Good	--	--	20.50	24.75	--	--	--	23.00	24.38	26.62
Vealers - All wts.-										
Choice & Prime	29.50	32.50	27.00	31.50	24.50	27.50	--	29.00	--	--
Stand. & Good	25.50	28.50	22.75	28.25	21.75	24.00	--	25.25	27.00	--
<u>Feeder and stocker cattle and calves</u>										
Steers -										
Choice 500-800#	27.00	31.05	25.55	30.00	26.75	30.50	26.00	29.75	--	--
Good " "	24.75	27.75	23.50	27.25	24.50	26.75	24.25	27.75	24.50	25.75
Medium 500-1000	21.05	24.90	19.90	24.25	21.00	23.88	21.00	24.50	21.50	24.00
Heifers -										
Choice 500-750	--	--	22.60	27.50	24.50	28.00	23.00	26.75	--	--
Med. & Gd. " "	--	--	19.25	24.50	21.00	23.75	20.00	24.50	21.00	--
Cows - All wts. -										
Med. & Gd.	--	--	16.00	19.25	13.50	20.00	16.00	20.25	--	19.00
Calves - 300-500#-										
Steers -										
Good & Choice	--	--	27.00	34.50	30.00	36.50	29.50	35.50	26.00	30.00
Heifers -										
Good & Choice	--	--	24.00	31.00	26.75	33.00	26.25	33.00	23.50	--

HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago		Interior		St. Louis		Omaha		Indianapolis		St. Joseph		Kansas City		Peoria	
	Dec.	19	Dec.	19	Dec.	19	Dec.	19	Dec.	19	Dec.	19	Dec.	19	Dec.	19
Barrows and gilts -																
U. S. No. 1 & 2																
180-200#	12.32		--		12.40		11.98		12.64		11.88		11.90		12.30	
200-220	12.60		--		12.41		12.32		12.64		12.12		11.96		12.18	
220-240	12.04		--		12.18		12.32		12.36		12.08		11.93		11.82	
U. S. No. 2 & 3																
200-220	12.07		--		11.98		11.62		11.98		11.34		11.48		11.82	
220-240	11.68		--		11.68		11.58		11.85		11.36		11.44		11.28	
240-270	11.20		--		10.98		11.12		11.15		11.02		11.06		10.88	
U. S. No. 1, 2 & 3																
180-200	12.06	19.02	11.06	17.30	12.18	18.90	11.45	18.15	12.21	19.09	11.38	18.28	11.57	18.24	12.12	18.75
200-220	12.32	18.90	11.55	17.98	12.18	18.88	11.85	18.32	12.28	19.10	11.62	18.35	11.76	18.32	12.00	18.68
220-240	11.86	18.55	11.31	17.54	11.78	18.66	11.85	18.25	12.08	18.72	11.62	18.15	11.71	18.23	11.50	18.35
240-270	11.34	17.75	10.77	16.78	11.16	17.75	11.40	17.62	11.31	18.12	11.16	17.50	11.45	17.64	11.00	17.80
Sows - U.S.1,2 & 3																
270-330	--	--	9.51	15.22	9.95	15.74	9.48	15.20	10.16	15.61	9.65	15.36	9.12	15.40	9.68	15.34
330-400	9.35	15.20	8.97	14.62	9.70	14.78	8.85	14.58	9.50	15.09	9.15	14.78	8.60	14.87	9.08	14.71
400-550	8.50	14.25	7.91	13.54	8.55	13.89	8.22	13.94	8.48	14.14	8.30	13.78	7.90	13.95	8.10	13.55
Classification	South		Sioux City		Sioux Falls		Cincinnati		Fort Worth		Thomasville		Baltimore		North	
Barrows and gilts -																
U. S. No. 1 & 2																
180-200#	12.05		11.72		--		12.42		--		12.12		13.56		14.19	
200-220	12.28		11.95		11.74		12.58		--		12.12		13.59		14.19	
220-240	12.28		11.75		11.70		12.24		--		12.12		--		13.94	
U. S. No. 2 & 3																
200-220	11.68		11.68		11.45		12.47		11.84		11.55		--		--	
220-240	11.45		11.63		11.35		12.22		11.75		11.55		13.17		--	
240-270	11.12		11.24		10.82		11.60		11.56		10.88		12.25		--	
U. S. No. 1,2 & 3																
180-200	11.78	18.55	11.68	18.05	--	--	12.34	19.32	--	18.53	11.60	18.12	13.38	20.48	13.44	19.06
200-220	11.78	18.65	11.81	18.08	11.58	17.76	12.47	19.48	11.91	18.78	11.60	18.12	13.50	20.48	13.44	19.12
220-240	11.65	18.25	11.71	17.95	11.46	17.58	12.22	19.06	11.75	18.66	11.60	18.00	13.19	19.98	13.31	18.69
240-270	--	18.02	11.28	17.22	10.98	16.95	11.60	18.56	11.56	18.19	--	17.20	--	--	12.59	18.00
Sows - U.S.1, 2 & 3																
270-330	9.98	15.58	9.42	15.36	9.08	14.92	9.55	16.60	9.25	16.88	8.85	15.66	--	--	11.50	16.38
330-400	9.20	14.97	9.02	14.64	8.68	14.45	8.90	15.86	8.75	16.66	8.10	14.98	--	--	10.75	15.50
400-550	8.20	13.75	8.32	13.66	7.85	13.38	8.28	14.50	8.50	16.10	7.35	--	--	--	9.75	13.90
Feeder pigs - All wts																
Good and Choice	9.85	17.30	--	17.85	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

Week ended		Chi- cago	St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards	Kan- sas City	Omaha	Sioux City	S. St. Joseph	S. St. Paul	Indian- apolis	8- mkts. com- bined
AVERAGE COST -		Dollars per 100 pounds								
Barrows and gilts	Dec. 19, 1959	11.69	11.64	11.48	11.43	11.31	11.45	11.39	12.01	11.53
	Dec. 12, 1959	12.06	12.11	11.98	11.91	11.78	11.96	11.76	12.50	11.98
	Dec. 20, 1958	18.20	18.35	17.88	17.49	17.37	17.75	17.61	18.70	17.87
Sows	Dec. 19, 1959	8.66	8.85	8.08	8.39	8.52	8.53	8.55	8.58	8.56
	Dec. 12, 1959	8.83	9.26	8.83	8.95	8.64	9.08	9.04	8.70	8.93
	Dec. 20, 1958	14.31	14.03	14.23	13.95	13.77	14.14	13.83	14.35	14.04
AVERAGE WEIGHT -		Pounds								
Barrows and gilts	Dec. 19, 1959	230	219	234	238	238	227	227	225	229
	Dec. 12, 1959	232	222	233	239	237	228	229	226	231
	Dec. 20, 1958	232	225	230	241	239	230	233	224	232
Sows	Dec. 19, 1959	446	406	425	427	426	414	415	436	424
	Dec. 12, 1959	451	399	429	426	429	404	416	442	425
	Dec. 20, 1958	438	430	441	439	427	414	422	453	433
NUMBER OF HEAD -										
Barrows and gilts	Dec. 19, 1959	34699	64911	16764	56957	48419	36016	52877	31503	342146
	Dec. 12, 1959	43211	64747	18175	62594	57492	33392	58486	32682	370779
	Dec. 20, 1958	39107	45161	12928	39321	48315	26011	47876	25354	284073
Sows	Dec. 19, 1959	5453	6347	1659	6764	4058	3348	5014	3840	36483
	Dec. 12, 1959	6774	7392	1455	7403	4854	3011	5778	4942	41609
	Dec. 20, 1958	4885	4258	1052	4915	4448	1943	5232	3229	29962
SOWS		Percentage of total								
		Dec. 19, 1959	14	9	9	11	8	9	9	11
		Dec. 12, 1959	14	10	7	11	8	8	9	13
		Dec. 20, 1958	11	9	8	11	8	7	10	11

1/ Weighted average.

WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

	Hog products 1/	Hog prices 2/	Gross spread or margin 3/
Dec. 19, 1959	\$14.11	\$12.32	\$1.79
Dec. 12, 1959	14.92	12.60	2.32
Dec. 20, 1958	20.47	18.90	1.57

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U. S. No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs, 200-220# wt. Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

Week ended	Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds	Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel	Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts
Dec. 19, 1959	11.69	109.0	10.7
Dec. 12, 1959	12.06	108.9	11.1
Dec. 20, 1958	18.20	116.2	15.7

1/ Simple average price.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification		Chicago	Omaha	Kansas City	Fort Worth	Denver	Ogden	North Port-land
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: (Wooled) - All wts.								
Choice	Dec. 19, 1959	17.55	17.60	17.48	16.75	17.80	16.95	16.75
	Dec. 20, 1958	19.10	19.05	19.10	18.00	19.02	18.82	18.84*
Good	Dec. 19, 1959	16.90	16.72	16.85	16.25	17.18	16.32	16.00
	Dec. 20, 1958	18.10	18.12	18.50	17.45	18.32	18.05	18.25*
EWES: (Wooled) - All wts.								
Good and	Dec. 19, 1959	4.50	5.50	4.25*	--	5.50*	4.50	5.00
Choice	Dec. 20, 1958	6.50	7.75	6.75	--	7.88	7.75	8.13
Cull and	Dec. 19, 1959	3.75	4.12	3.50*	6.50*	3.75*	3.00	3.75
Utility	Dec. 20, 1958	6.50	6.50	5.75	--	6.00	5.25	5.62
FEEDER LAMBS - All wts. -								
Good and	Dec. 19, 1959	--	17.00	--	14.70	17.72	15.40	14.75
Choice	Dec. 20, 1958	--	20.25	--	17.00	18.84	18.38	17.38

* Shorn basis.

UNITED STATES FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER BY REGIONS

NOVEMBER 1959 - WITH COMPARISONS (Thousand head)

Region	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep & Lambs	
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
N. Atlantic States	116	110	96	81	495	443	174	168
S. Atlantic States	35	34	22	28	311	232	1/	1/
N.C. States - Eastern	257	265	164	172	1,367	1,209	125	107
N.C. States - N. Western	492	405	62	66	2,677	2,278	314	283
N.C. States - S. Western	146	112	16	11	678	462	68	48
S. Central States	139	130	55	59	472	372	96	46
Mountain States	96	90	3	2	105	85	128	111
Pacific States	180	155	20	21	232	176	164	120
Total	1,462	1,302	438	441	6,337	5,258	1,070	883

Other animals slaughtered under Federal inspection, (number of head): November 1959 - Horses 8068; Goats 3,996; November 1958 - Horses 10,086; Goats 11,987.

Data furnished by Agricultural Research Service.

1/ Not available for publication.

PIG CROP REPORT - DECEMBER 1959

The 1959 pig crop totaled 101.6 million head, 8 percent more than the 1958 crop of 94.5 million head, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This year's crop was the largest since the record 121.8 million head produced in 1943. The spring pig crop at 58.6 million was up 12 percent from that of 1958, and the fall crop of 43.0 million was up 2 percent. The increase in the spring crop resulted from an increase in the number of sows farrowing, coupled with a slight increase in pigs saved per litter. The larger fall crop came as the result of a 5 percent increase in sows farrowing which more than offset the 3 percent decline in pigs saved per litter.

Reports on breeding intentions indicate 7,310,000 sows to farrow in the spring of 1960, 12 percent less than the number farrowing last spring. If these intentions materialize and the number of pigs per litter equals the 10-year average with an allowance for upward trend, the 1960 spring pig crop would be approximately 52.0 million head. A crop of this size would be 11 percent less than the 1959 spring crop.

The complete Pig Crop Report will appear in the December 29 issue of this publication.

12/22/59

WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEWS

NEW YORK - Non-locally dressed: Trading was moderately active for steer and cow beef hindquarters, and very active on ribs, while beef arm chucks sold slowly. Outlet was fair for lamb on Monday, but poor later in the week. Demand was narrow for pork loins early in the week, however, trading turned fairly active late, and clearances were generally complete. Veal and calf carcasses and wholesale cuts were in poor demand. Volume of steer beef, veal, lamb and pork was normal; calf and cow beef moderate.

Compared with Friday the week previous: Steer beef carcass prices 50¢ lower; cow beef steady to weak; calf generally weak, instances \$1.00 off; Good to Prime veal carcasses \$1.00-2.00 lower, Standard \$3.00-4.00 off; lamb \$1.00-2.00 lower; pork loins \$1.00 to mostly \$3.00 lower; Boston butts \$2.00 lower; skinned hams \$1.00-2.00 off; spareribs \$1.00 lower.

Locally dressed: Prices for Choice and Prime steer hindquarters were steady to strong, ribs \$1.00-4.00 higher, arm chucks \$1.00-3.00 lower, mainly \$2.00 off. Veal, calf and lamb prices were unchanged but generally weak. Declines of \$2.00-4.00 were recorded on pork loins. Prices on kosher steer forequarters and lamb foresaddles were largely \$1.00 lower, while quotations on kosher veal and calf were unaltered. Outlet was fair for steer hindquarters, ribs, pork Boston butts and spareribs, but narrow for other traefer fresh meats. Trading was fairly active for small lots of Choice and Prime kosher steer beef, however, very slow for bulk kosher steer beef, lamb, veal and calf. Production of steer beef, lamb and pork was near normal, with output of veal and calf moderate.

CHICAGO - Fresh pork supplies liberal through most of the period with volume of other fresh meats normal. Most steer and heifer beef graded Good and Choice and bulk of the lamb weighed 55-65#. Broad outlet prevailed for beef ribs and loins at higher prices with hotel and restaurant supply operators most aggressive. Arm and squarecut chucks on the other hand were hard to sell and prices declined as much as \$5.00. Steer and heifer carcasses declined for the third straight week in a moderately active trade with the greatest decline on heifer beef. Veal mostly \$1.00 lower in a dull trade, least downturn on Choice and Prime offerings. Trading moderately active on lamb early, but rather slow late. Ribs and loins finding best outlet of lamb cuts. Trading on fresh pork was slow, however, demand was fairly good at the close. A good portion of the pork loins sold for freezer account. Compared to the previous Friday: Steer and heifer beef 50¢-1.00 lower; cow beef steady to

\$1.00 lower; veal and lamb mostly \$1.00 lower; pork loins 8-16# steady; Boston butts 4-8# \$1.00-2.00 lower; spareribs 3# down steady.

PACIFIC COAST - Choice steer beef under 600# continued in small supply, while other steer and cow beef carcasses were moderate and in instances were slightly liberal for a typical pre-Christmas curtailed demand. Calf supplies were moderate with veal fully adequate. Lamb continued liberal with accumulations. Most fresh pork cuts were liberal and accumulating while smoked skinned hams were moderate but adequate for a fairly good Christmas demand. Prices compared with last week's close: Choice steer beef steady to 50¢ higher except some sales 650-700# 50¢ lower at Los Angeles; other steer along with cow beef steady to \$1.00 higher; calf mostly steady except \$2.00-3.00 higher at San Francisco; veal steady to \$2.00 lower, the decline at San Francisco; lamb \$1.00-4.00 lower, the greatest downturn at Los Angeles; fresh pork loins steady to \$3.00 lower; other fresh pork steady to \$1.00 lower; smoked skinned hams steady to \$1.00 higher, sliced bacon steady to \$1.00 lower; other pork and lard about steady.

SHIP SAILINGS WITH MEAT FOR U. S. - The Agricultural Attache in Australia reports the following ship sailings with beef for the United States. The Gloucester sailed Nov. 11 with 1,834,560# for Los Angeles, 1,630,720# for San Francisco, 1,019,200# for Seattle and 418,880# for Chicago; Nottingham, Nov. 22 with 2,257,920# for New York, 188,160# for Boston and 129,920# for Chicago.

Note: Cities listed indicate location of purchasers and in some instances meat may be diverted for sale to other areas.

CARLOT MEAT REPORT - Trading on carlots of beef and lamb carcasses was slow with demand rather poor. Price trends were unevenly lower on steer and heifer carcasses. At Chicago steer and heifer beef closed 50¢-1.00 lower for the week with the greatest decline on heifer. Choice steer beef sold 50¢-1.00 lower at Omaha and Philadelphia with Good steady to weak at Philadelphia but \$1.00-1.50 lower at Omaha. At Denver steer beef closed mostly \$1.00-1.50 lower and sales at New York were largely 50¢ off. Heifer beef closed mainly \$1.00 lower at Omaha, and steady to 50¢ lower at Denver. Lamb carcasses sold 50¢-2.00 lower, large volume \$1.00 off.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
(In dollars per 100 pounds)

Classification	New York		Chicago		San Francisco		Los Angeles	
	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.
	19	20	19	20	19	20	19	20
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Steer beef -								
Prime 700-800#	48.10	46.75	--	45.00	--	--	--	--
Choice 500-600	--	--	42.44	45.25	44.50	46.00	44.00	45.94
600-700	44.60	46.40	42.00	45.25	43.25	45.00	42.94	44.94
Good 400-600	42.35	43.75	39.84	42.50	43.00	45.50	42.00	44.00
Standard 350-600	--	--	38.50	41.50	39.50	40.75	40.00	43.00
Cow beef, all wts. -								
Commercial	34.00	38.25	29.75	35.25	32.50	39.00	32.00	39.00
Utility	33.25	36.75	29.38	34.50	30.50	37.50	31.50	38.25
Veal -								
Prime 90-120#	61.10	59.50	52.75	53.62	--	--	--	--
Choice 90-120	48.80	51.00	46.88	49.75	--	--	--	--
Good 90-120	44.20	48.00	41.75	45.88	53.00	55.00	--	--
Lamb -								
Prime 35-45#	42.30	45.30	--	42.75	--	--	--	--
45-55	41.80	44.70	--	42.75	--	43.50	38.50	44.00
Choice 45-55	39.85	42.75	38.38	41.69	39.25	43.00	38.50	44.00
55-65	39.00	40.70	37.25	39.00	36.75	40.00	35.38	41.25
Good, all wts.	39.30	42.00	35.56	38.38	39.00	42.50	35.38	41.38
Pork - Fresh -								
Loins 8-12#	35.35	47.60	32.10	43.88	40.00	51.00	36.75	48.50
12-16	34.40	46.70	30.95	42.50	38.00	51.00	36.75	48.50
Butts 4-8	31.60	42.00	26.60	38.62	34.00	42.00	33.50	40.00
Pork - Cured -								
Hams, smk. skd. -								
12-16#	41.50	57.00	48.75	56.94	51.50	57.50	50.25	57.50
16-18	40.50	55.00	45.50	53.69	47.00	56.00	48.25	56.00
Bacon, smk. - Slab -								
6-8#	27.50	--	31.75	50.44	--	51.00	--	44.00
8-10	28.25	42.50	29.00	48.75	--	49.00	--	43.50
Sliced, 1# pkg.	35.00	47.70	38.75	52.62	39.00	52.00	40.35	52.88
Picnics, smk., 4-8#	28.50	33.50	31.50	35.38	30.00	36.00	29.00	35.50
Lard, 1# carton -								
Refined	12.75	15.50	11.25	14.00	15.50	20.00	13.75	17.00

Note: Quotations at New York exclude locally dressed fresh meats. Variation in prices in some cured pork cuts between Chicago and New York due in part to differences in processing and packaging.

BULK PRICES - CARLOT BASIS - WEEK ENDED DEC. 18, 1959

Classification	Prices paid F.O.B.			Prices delivered	
	Chicago	Denver	Omaha	New York	Philadelphia
Steer beef -					
Choice 600-700#	40.00-41.00	39.00-39.50	39.25-39.75	42.00-43.00	42.00-42.50
700-800	39.00-39.50	38.00	38.00-38.25	40.50-41.50	41.00-41.50
800-900	38.00-38.50	37.00	37.00-37.25	39.50-40.50	39.00-40.00
Good 500-600	--	--	--	40.00-41.00	--
600-700	38.00-38.50	38.00-39.00	36.75-37.25	39.00-41.00	38.50-39.00
700-800	37.50-38.00	--	36.00-36.75	37.50-38.50	38.00-39.00
Heifer beef -					
Choice 500-600#	38.50-39.00	39.00-41.00	37.50-38.50	--	--
600-700	38.00-38.50	38.00-38.50	37.00-37.50	40.00-40.50	--
Good 500-600	36.00-37.00	--	35.00-36.00	--	--
600-700	36.00-37.00	--	35.00-35.50	--	--
Lamb -					
Choice 35-45#	36.00-36.50	33.50	35.25-36.25	38.00-41.00	37.00-38.00
45-55	36.00-36.50	33.50	33.75-35.25	36.00-37.00	36.00-37.00
55-65	35.00-35.50	32.50	33.25	35.00-36.00	35.00-36.00

BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

With the year-end holiday season approaching, trading of greasy domestic worsted wools was slow in the Boston market with sales totaling about 3 cars. Prices continued firm. Demand was good for medium fleece wools but supply was restricted. Some pulled wool handlers reported a good weight sold at firm prices. Noils were slow but about steady while buyers showed a little more interest in scoured shorn wools. Activity in the domestic primary areas was very slow.

Midweek cables from Australia reported active trading with prices steady to $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ higher. Eastern Europe, Japan and England were the principal operators. Prices at the Cape markets were firm under general competition. New Zealand quotations advanced about $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ with China dominating the market for medium and coarse cross-bred wools with keen competition from the Continent, Bradford and Japan. The South American markets were generally slow but Argentine carpet wool prices continued strong.

Fleece Wools - Low quarter-blood staple fleece wool grading 48/50s sold around \$1.04-1.05 clean basis.

Territory Wools - Original bag bulk fine with some half-blood good French combing and staple territory wool sold around \$1.25-1.26 clean. Imperial Valley, Calif. lambs wool, bulk fine and half-blood sold mostly around 48-50¢ grease basis to the growers.

Texas Wools - Activity in Texas was limited.

Mohair - Prices paid in Texas continued at \$1.01 $\frac{1}{2}$ for adult and \$1.31 $\frac{1}{2}$ for kid hair to the warehouse.

Foreign Wools - Spot greasy New Zealand and good average 44/46s carding fleeces sold around \$1.05 clean basis, duty paid. The Australian auctions recessed for the holiday season on December 17 and will resume sales on January 11. New Zealand closed at Timaru on December 18. Cabled quotations at week's end follow with combing wools converted to clean U. S. oil-combed yields and short wools to scouring yields, in bond.

Australia - Oil combed

61	-	\$1.27	432	-	\$1.16
62	-	1.23	433	-	1.07
63	-	1.18	434	-	1.06

New Zealand - Oil combed

86	-	97¢	100	-	92¢
93	-	94¢	107	-	92¢
834	-	93¢	114	-	91¢
			128	-	89¢

South Africa

Oil-combed		Scoured yields	
7	-	\$1.17	
12	-	1.15	22 - \$1.11
17	-	1.11	27 - 1.05
47	-	1.13	32 - 1.00
48	-	1.11	

Carpet Wools - Trade in carpet wools was slow with the larger mills temporarily out of the market. Greasy Buenos Aires November second clip 36/40s were quoted at 84 $\frac{1}{2}$ -85 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; March wool around 82 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; New Zealand carpet fleeces from 88-92¢ and crutchings from 76-79¢, all clean fibers present for shipment. Spot greasy carpet wools were quoted as follows: White Aleppos around 82-83¢, white Pakistan/India 79-81¢ and New Zealand wools from 85-88 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, clean fibers present.

Woolen Wools - Sales follow:

Scoured Pulled Domestic

58s	2-3"	Stained	\$1.11
58/56s	2-3"	Gray	.88
56/58s	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	White	1.15
56s	2-3"	Choice white	1.16
56s	2-3"	Paint wool	1.04

Scoured Pulled Foreign

Aust. 58/60s 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2" white 1.17

Greasy Pulled Domestic (Clean basis)

64s	2-3"	Gd. to Choice	\$1.32
60s Ave.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Choice	1.20
58s Ave.	3"	Choice	1.20
58s	2-3"	Seedy Def.	1.07

Greasy Pulled Foreign

(Clean basis, duty paid - All for shipment)

Arg.	58s lambs ave.	3" Gd. to Super	\$1.25
N.Z.	56/58s lambs	2-3" Gd. to Super	1.22
N.Z.	56s	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " lambs	Gd. to Super 1.20

Scoured Shorn Domestic

62/60s Ave. 2" Gd. color \$1.05

Wool Tops - Trade in wool tops was slow with inquiry for medium grades and prices easier compared to last week.

Quotes follow:

	Warp Aust. D/C	Warp Dom. D/C
70s	- \$1.99	\$1.96
64s	- 1.93	1.90
62s	- 1.87	1.82
60s	- 1.82	1.73
58/60s	- 1.78	1.67

CLOSING FUTURES QUOTATIONS -Dec. 17, 1959
(Furnished by the Wool Assoc. of the N.Y. Cotton Exchange)

December wool tops	\$1.60
December wool	1.241
March wool tops	1.63
March wool	1.281

MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTED WHEN OFFERED FOR IMPORTATION
(USDA - ARS - Meat Inspection Division)

NOVEMBER 1959

Country of origin	Fresh meats and edible offal			Cured meats	
	Beef and	Lamb and	Pork	Beef	Pork
	Veal	Mutton			
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Argentina.....	--	--	--	422,981	--
Australia.....	13,412,637	1,574,677	--	--	18
Brazil.....	--	--	--	186,967	--
Canada.....	1,782,374	57,559	2,857,745	210	523,118
Denmark.....	--	--	--	--	6,700
Germany.....	--	--	--	--	11,717
Holland.....	--	--	--	--	34,616
Ireland.....	8,190,670	--	--	--	14,114
Mexico.....	2,965,981	--	--	--	--
New Zealand.....	7,634,101	750,108	312	--	--
Paraguay.....	--	--	--	166,641	--
Poland.....	--	--	--	--	--
Uruguay.....	--	--	--	--	--
All others.....	4,069,503	1,187,712	8,519	1,850	8,843
Total - Nov. 1959....	38,055,266	3,570,056	2,866,576	778,649	599,126
Nov. 1958....	37,162,573	1,721,600	6,110,415	12,578,298	937,626
Refused or condemned:					
Nov. 1959....	239,977	--	--	--	8,715
Nov. 1958....	251,788	33,560	1,762	151,610	1,501

Country of origin	Canned meats			Sausage	General	Total
	Beef	Pork	Misc'l.	(Trichina:	miscel-	
				treated):	laneous	
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Argentina.....	4,275,143	--	--	--	986,298	5,684,422
Australia.....	10,332	--	--	--	117,190	15,114,854
Brazil.....	615,742	--	--	--	--	802,709
Canada.....	14,171	294,291	15,152	4,758	324,711	5,874,089
Denmark.....	19,956	2,426,299	241,872	175,405	2,698	2,872,930
Germany.....	--	274,335	203	23,327	--	309,582
Holland.....	--	3,502,525	29,118	10,798	--	3,577,057
Ireland.....	144	--	--	--	--	8,204,928
Mexico.....	--	--	--	--	--	2,965,981
New Zealand.....	--	--	--	--	--	8,384,521
Paraguay.....	443,116	--	--	--	--	609,757
Poland.....	--	2,014,145	232,108	--	--	2,246,253
Uruguay.....	366,330	--	--	--	--	366,330
All others.....	3,181	23,103	143,687	83,496	3,260	5,533,154
Total - Nov. 1959	5,748,115	8,534,698	662,140	297,784	1434,157	62,546,567
Nov. 1958	6,968,589	8,588,319	905,226	114,870	620,718	75,708,234
Refused or condemned:						
Nov. 1959	33,444	27,832	45,817	17,096	--	372,881
Nov. 1958	1,745	35,052	27,834	--	--	504,852

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COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF MEATS AND LARD, NOVEMBER 30, 1959

Red meat holdings totaled 462 million pounds on December 1. These stocks were 10 percent above December 1, 1958 but 4 percent below average. Seasonal gains in beef stocks totaled 6 million pounds during November. A year earlier beef stocks were increased by 21 million pounds while the average net gain is 34 million. Beef holdings totaled 169 million pounds on December 1--up 7 percent compared with the same date last year and 4 percent above the 1954-58 average. Pork holdings were increased 31 million pounds during November compared with 50 million for the same period last year and 73 million the average. Stocks of pork totaled 216 million pounds on December 1. Although 13 percent below average, these stocks were 17 percent above holdings on December 1, 1958. Frozen pork items, picnics, hams, and bellies all increased during November. Frozen pork bellies showed the largest gain, 15 million pounds, up 60 percent. Frozen picnics were up 52 percent and frozen hams were up 7 percent.

UNITED STATES STORAGE HOLDINGS OF MEATS AND LARD, NOV. 30, 1959 WITH COMPARISONS
(Includes holdings in public, private and semi-private
cold storage houses and meat packing plants)

Commodity	November 1954-58 av. 1,000 lb.	November 1958 1,000 lb.	October 1959 1,000 lb.	November 1959 1,000 lb.
Beef:				
Frozen	152,105	145,566	152,548	158,925
In cure and cured	9,876	13,070	10,117	10,160
Total	161,981	158,636	162,665	169,085
Pork, frozen:				
Picnics	1/	6,243	4,571	6,947
Hams	1/	27,304	36,917	39,412
Bellies	1/	30,220	25,540	40,977
Other frozen pork cuts	1/	65,714	74,092	78,437
Total	164,469	129,481	141,120	165,773
Pork in cure or cured:				
Dry salt bellies	1/	10,197	6,095	8,855
Other dry salt pork	1/	7,772	6,518	6,607
Other pork cuts	1/	36,988	31,092	34,542
Total	84,395	54,957	43,705	50,004
Total pork	248,864	184,438	184,825	215,777
Other meats and meat products:				
Veal, frozen	15,533	12,997	8,024	9,036
Lamb and mutton, frozen	8,801	9,280	12,300	11,660
Canned meats in cooler	46,071	53,364	52,803	56,864
Total all meats	481,250	418,715	420,617	462,422
Lard, rendered and refined 2/	84,785	67,938	80,400	4/
GOVERNMENT HOLDINGS 3/ -				
Pork	6,614	4,796	2,156	1,878
Beef	7,149	1,746	1,430	1,270

1/ Not reported separately prior to 1957. 2/ In dry and cold storage as reported by Bureau of Census. 3/ Government holdings are included in the totals and consist of reported stocks held by U.S.D.A., the Armed Services and other Government agencies. 4/ Not available.